

ABSTRACT

FLUOROCHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR TREATING A SUBSTRATE THEREWITH

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The present invention provides an aqueous composition comprising (i) a fluorochemical compound and (ii) an ester derivative of an alpha-hydroxy acid, the ester derivative having a melting point of not more than 35°C and a water solubility of not more than 10% by weight at 25°C. The fluorochemical compound is typically
10 dispersed or emulsified in the aqueous composition.

The aqueous compositions may provide such advantages as providing good oil- and/or water repellency properties to a substrate upon application at ambient conditions, without the need for a heat treatment. Thus, the aqueous compositions may be used to provide oil- and/or water repellency properties to a substrate such as for example a
15 fibrous substrate, e.g., leather or textile. In particular, repellency properties comparable to those achieved with a heat treatment step may be achieved.